



## WEEKLY REPORT

### November 5, 2012 Highlights:



*The collapsed bridge at Hope River in St. Andrew as a result of Hurricane Sandy.*



*U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica, Pamela E. Bridgewater delivering remarks at the launch of the Infectious Disease Postgraduate Fellowship Program at the University of the West Indies (UWI) on November 1.*

- ◆ **USAID/Jamaica to donate \$150,000 for Hurricane Sandy relief efforts in Jamaica**— In response to the Government of Jamaica's request for assistance to the disaster affected people in Jamaica following Hurricane Sandy, USAID/Jamaica and the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) has committed USD 150,000.00 in international disaster assistance funds. On Friday November 2, 2012 U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica, Pamela E. Bridgewater advised Prime Minister Portia Simpson-Miller that disaster assistance funds will be provided for immediate disaster relief for affected people in Jamaica. The Hurricane which made landfall on October 24, impacted mostly the central and eastern parishes of the island. According to the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) parishes most severely affected include: Portland, St. Thomas, St. Mary and Kingston & St. Andrew where there was damage to many homes and small commercial enterprises including roof damage and flooding as well as complete destruction of crops and vegetation. Assistance will focus on restoring the livelihoods in these hard-hit parishes in coordination with ODPEM. The USD 150,000.00 will be awarded to HelpAge.
- ◆ **Infectious Disease Postgraduate Fellowship Program** -The American International Health Alliance (AIHA) launched the Infectious Disease Postgraduate Fellowship Program at the University of the West Indies (UWI) on November 1. Through this new program, clinical specialists will be trained to provide critical treatment to persons living with HIV or AIDS, as well as those afflicted with communicable diseases that pose a public health concern. U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica, Pamela E. Bridgewater gave remarks at the launch.

- ◆ **ACDI/VOCA – Ja-REACH**- The USAID/Jamaica funded Marketing and Agriculture for Jamaican Improved Competitiveness project (MAJIC) has been revised and approved and is now renamed the Jamaica Rural Economy and Ecosystems Adapting to Climate Change (Ja-REACH) with an end date of Sept. 29, 2014.

### Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **LIFE Graduation**— The USAID/Jamaica funded Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE) project will be hosting its second graduation ceremony on November 13, 2012 for a number of beekeepers within the parish of Trelawny. At the event graduates will receive certificates of participation and equipment necessary to manage an apiary including a bee veil, smoker, hive tool and bee brush.
- ◆ **Competitiveness Company Launch**- The USAID/Jamaica funded DGP2 project, the Competitiveness Company will host the launch of its new office and highlight the Innovation for Export component of their project on November 15. Mission Director of USAID/Jamaica, Ms. Denise Herbol will bring greetings to the event.